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The Study of Animal Life. By J. ARTHUR THOMSON, M.A., F.R.S.E. New York : Charles Scribner's Sons. 12 mo. ; pp. 375.

This is a manual designed for teachers and students in University Extension Courses. It consists of a series of sketches, concerning the every day life of animals, their internal activities, their forms and structure, and finally, the theory of animal life, all carefully arranged so as to make a connected account. It is addressed to those who have little time or opportunity for the systematic study of zoology, but who have an interest in the life and habits of animals, and desire to appreciate these more thoroughly. Its chief object is, as stated by the author, "to give the student some impulse to joyousness of observation, and freedom of judgment, rather than to satisfy that thirst for knowledge which leads many to intellectual insobriety."

The plan of the work has been carried out in an admirable manner. It is written in a clear simple style ; and at the same time, the view taken is from a thoroughly scientific standpoint ; and what is especially satisfactory, the later results of science are embodied in it. Popular works are apt to lag a long way behind the van of science, but this one is both popular and abreast of modern thought.

The breadth of the scope of the work, and the narrow limits of its space have necessitated a brief discussion of each of the topics treated ; but the book possesses all the merits of a vigorous and suggestive sketch. The reader is sure to feel a desire to read farther. How this desire may be gratified the author points out in an excellent appendix entitled, "Some of the Text Books on Animal Life."

Although this book is written especially for those engaged in University Extension work, its usefulness is not confined to this field ; both teachers and students in schools and college classes will find it an exceedingly valuable complement to the ordinary text-book of zoology.

J. H. Comstock.

Cornell University.

American Literature, a Text Book for the Use of Schools and Colleges. By JULIAN HAWTHORNE and LEONARD LEMMON. Boston : D. C. Heath & Co. 1892.

This book, the critical parts of which are written mainly by one of America's shrewdest judges of what is delicate and true, especially in imaginative writing, is not at all like the average book of its class. Text-books for the use of schools are, as a rule, apt to be tedious, tasteless, and especially colorless. They are apt to be so cautious and conservative in their presentation of opinion and even of fact as to lose individuality, flavor and force. But Julian Hawthorne's book on American Literature is permeated by the author's thought and feeling and is alive on every